



**National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials**  
P. O. Box 822  
Canton, CT 06019  
Phone: (860) 508-4896  
[www.conn-nahro.org](http://www.conn-nahro.org)

**Testimony of  
Neil J. Griffin Jr.  
Senior Vice President  
Housing Committee  
February 7, 2011**

Good-afternoon my name is Neil Griffin and I am the Senior Vice President of Conn-NAHRO and the Executive Director of the Glastonbury Housing Authority. Conn-NAHRO represents over 112 Connecticut housing authorities and other non-profit and community development member agencies. Member agencies have the responsibility of effectively managing or administering housing for 150,000 families/individuals and over 62,000 housing units in Connecticut.

Speaking on behalf of Conn-NAHRO's Executive Board and member agencies I would like to express support for HB 5027 and SB 293 with the understanding that these not be made "super" preferences, but to be statutorily allowed so Housing Authorities are authorized to make these a preference within their admission policies. Our concern is there will be situations where it may be necessary to house another applicant of an equal or greater priority prior to housing an applicant with a veterans preference depending on the specific circumstances surround each applicant (i.e. prevent homelessness of an involuntary displaced family etc.).

Conn-NAHRO's supports HB 5889. If nothing else the recognition of the importance housing plays in our economic engine is critical. While this same concept has been introduced year after year without success and we do not hold out much optimism given the fiscal condition of the state, it is critical that housing not be brushed aside. Action must be taken on the preservation of our existing housing stock and the development of affordable housing that will allow the State to retain its workforce.

Conn-NARHO strongly supports HB 6048. The development of a comprehensive outcome based housing policy is desperately needed. The result desired would be to see a policy that achieves the desired goal in the States affordable housing preservation and development efforts.